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PATENT  
8038-1020

## IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hideaki KITAGUCHI

Conf. 1664

Application No. 10/006,359

Group 2662

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Examiner Hassan Kizou

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTCommissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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March 24, 2004

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the accompanying documents, copies of which are attached to this statement, are made of record on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the Japanese Patent Office in the corresponding Japanese Application Serial No. 2000-374122, filed December 8, 2000. A copy of the Japanese Official Action in which they were cited is attached hereto, with what is believed to be the pertinent portion enclosed in a wavy line. An English translation of the enclosed portion is also attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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\* Abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience